

Hello,

I am writing in opposition of HB 5447.

As an educator for children with special needs, I see firsthand the powerful impact of a strong IEP. Our students, many of whom struggled in public school settings, receive individualized attention and care, the benefits of which cannot be overstated. The students unique health, mental health, behavioral, language, and sensory needs prevent them from using a one size fits all education. Private providers are able to get to know each child well enough to develop goals and objectives that help them become successful in all areas. This care and attention to unique learning abilities is simply what is guaranteed to these students by law. HB5447 effectively takes the individualization out of the IEP system and makes it more difficult to find the most appropriate educational supports for the students. Additionally, it will impact students in our state unevenly based on the resources available to specific districts and income disparities in our state.

Thank you,  
Meghan Baer

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